CITI Financial Conflict of Interest on Sponsored Projects Training for Existing CITI Users

The Public Health Service (PHS) published in the Federal Register a Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) Regulation which takes effect no later than August 24, 2012. One requirement of the regulation is that all investigators of a PHS funded project must complete FCOI training, before engaging in the research. The UMMS Policy for Promoting Objectivity in Biomedical Research has been revised to incorporate this requirement, making it applicable to all sponsored research funding sources. An investigator is defined as the principal investigator and any other person, regardless of title or position, who is responsible for the design, conduct or reporting of the research.

The UMMS Principal Investigator will determine who meets this definition on their projects. Each individual meeting the regulation definition of investigator must complete FCOI training prior to engaging in the research and every four years thereafter.

UMMS offers a specific FCOI training class that will satisfy the regulatory requirement. FCOI training is offered through the CITI Online training module and can be accessed at http://www.citiprogram.org/.

Investigators should take the mandatory training as soon as possible. Once taken the training is valid for four years. After four years, Investigators will be required to take the training again.

Existing Users should login in to CITI using their login and password.
After logging in, the Main Menu will appear. Select the Add a Course link (see screen below):

After selecting the “Add a course or update your learner groups for University of Massachusetts Worcester,” the Select Curriculum page will appear. To select the COI training, select Yes to Question 3 and click the submit button.
After clicking the submit button, the Main Menu will appear with the COI training added to the My Courses section:

To begin the training click on the Enter hyperlink under the status header.

**Verification of FCOI Training**

Research Funding Services is responsible for verifying that investigators on sponsored projects have received FCOI training. RFS will not set up projects until investigator training has been confirmed.

**PI’s Have the Responsibility to Ensure Project’s Key Personnel are Trained**

PI’s have the responsibility to ensure that all individuals meeting the regulation definition of an investigator have taken the mandatory FCOI training prior to engaging in the research.

**Questions**

If you have any questions please contact Diego Vazquez, Assistant Vice Provost, Research Funding Services at 508-925-5047 or via email at diego.vazquez@umassmed.edu.